

INFORMATION REPORT CD NO.

COUNTRY Colombia

DATE DISTR. 1 NOV 50

SUBJECT PCC Leaders Current Position Toward Duran

NO. OF PAGES 2

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. Leaders of the Partido Comunista de Colombia (PCC) have been unable to agree on what to do about Augusto Duran, former Secretary General of the PCC. Some favor outright public expulsion of Duran; others suggest strongly worded reprimands administered in private; others suggest addressing complaints against Duran direct to the Cominform; and still others believe that the quarrel with Duran should be kept as quiet as possible and that efforts should be made to collaborate with Duran at least to the extent of offering him a position on the Central Committee.
2. Duran himself has recently written to the Secretary General, Gilberto Vieira White, criticizing the latter's leadership along the following lines:
 - a. Marxist education in the PCC is being neglected.
 - b. Cell meetings have contained no agenda other than local politics.
 - c. The central organisms of the Party have degenerated into bureaucracies whose functionaries do not understand their jobs and have no interest other than collecting their salaries and milking the Party treasury.
 - d. Internal problems of the Party are brought into the open in Party publications, and criticism of individual Communists is made public. Such criticism is a Party matter.
 - e. Party publications should be doctrinary in character, aimed at the bourgeois as well as Party members.
 - f. Overt Party propaganda should be of the type that carries an international impact, and should not be cluttered up with petty matters which give readers the impression that the Party is a tiny sect unconnected with a world-wide organization.
3. Duran claims that he forwarded a report containing the above criticisms to the Cominform, according to source. Source reported that Duran has attributed to this the recent appearance in the Cominform's Spanish language publication of an article reminding Communists of the necessity to continue the study of Communist theory.*
4. Party leaders generally agree that Duran would probably not back down on his present stand against the Party's leadership. The Party leaders even accuse

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 260628
No Change in Class. ☐
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Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 260628
By: 034

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Duran of planning to form a new Communist group in Colombia within the framework of so-called Titoism.
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Comment: Such an article appeared on the front page of the 15 September 1950 issue of the Communist Spanish publication Por una Paz Justadora, Por una Democracia Popular.

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